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TAGS: <u>EWWT EAID ECIN ECON EFIS MARR MASS MCAP</u> SUBJECT: GLOBAL MARITIME PARTNERSHIPS (GMP)

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Mission delivered the reftel nonpaper during a May 27 briefing to a Brazilian Ministry of External Affairs (MRE) team led by Special Advisor Marcos Pinta Gama. The Brazilians expressed interest in the overall concept of a maritime partnership but were curious as to what specific programs the U.S. might be considering for Brazilian and South American participation. The flexibility of the proposed partnership and its applicability to a country such as Brazil which depends on seaborne trade for its prosperity were also important considerations. The Brazilian side identified drug trafficking, piracy and security of the Panama Canal as important regional issues but was unable to give an immediate answer as to whether Brazil would join the GMP.

SOBEL